Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180321

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. OUR RECOMMENDATION THAT WE COMPENSATE THE GOY FOR PHYSICAL DAMAGE AND PERSONAL INJURY RESULTING FROM THE UN MISSION INSTRUSION IN JUNE 1977 IS STALLED IN BEN READ'S OFFICE. INDICATIONS NOW POINT TO A NEGATIVE DECISION, ESPECIALLY ON THE ISSUE OF COMPENSATING THE DOORKEEPER FOR HIS MEDICAL BILLS AND FOR PERSONAL INJURY. IT WOULD HELP OUR CASE IF WE COULD PROVIDE SOME EVIDENCE THAT THE GOY HAS COMPENSATED US FOR PERSONAL INJURIES IN THE PAST, BUT WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH CASES. DO YOU HAVE ANY RECORDS OR RECOLLECTIONS OF SUCH PAYMENTS? WE HAVE REQUESTED A LUMP SUM EX GRATIA PAYMENT OF $73,000.

2.BULAJIC ASSAULT. WE HAVE CHECKED INTO THE STATUS OF INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE ROBBERY AND THE ASSAULT ON BULAJIC IN 1975. WE HAVE NO RECORD OF ANY ROBBERY, BUT WE HAVE DISCOVERED THE OUTCOME OF THE ASSAULT INVESTIGATION. ON MAY 3, 1975, BOTTLES WERE THROWN AT BULAJIC AND HIS WIFE
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AS THEY WERE LEAVING A CONCERT. THE FBI INVESTIGATED THE CASE AND EVENTUALLY DETERMINED THE IDENTITY OF THE PERPETRATOR. BECAUSE BULAJIC HAD ALREADY LEFT THE UNITED STATES BY THIS TIME, THE ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY DECLINED TO PROSECUTE.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WROTE TO BELOVSKI ON JANUARY 16, 1978, ABOUT SEVERAL INCIDENTS. REGARDING THE BULAJIC ASSAULT, HE

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STATED: "AN EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED INTO THE INCIDENT. THE CONSUL GENERAL AND HIS WIFE WERE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY POTENTIAL SUSPECTS SHOWN TO THEM. ALL LOGICAL INVESTIGATIVE STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN, AND SINCE THERE WAS NO PROSPECT FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THOSE INVOLVED, THE INVESTIGATION WAS TERMINATED." FYI: WE WERE TOLD IN CONFIDENCE BY THE FBI THAT THE MAN WHO ATTACKED BULAJIC IS IN PRISON FOR ANOTHER OFFENSE, AND THIS APPARENTLY WAS A FACTOR IN THE DECISION NOT TO PROSECUTE.

3. MARKOVIC. THE PLANE ARRIVED RIGHT ON TIME, THE BAND PLAYED, THREE CONGRESSMEN SHOWED (DANIELSON, SKUBITS, OBERSTAR) -- NOT BAD FOR A SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN JULY. WE TOLD THE YUGOSLAVS ABOUT MARKOVIC'S APPARENT FOOD POISONING AT DEPARTURE, AND ALERTED THE ANDREWS AFB HOSPITAL AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT MEDICAL OFFICE. BUT HE SEEMED TO BE ALRIGHT ON ARRIVAL AND WE'VE HEARD NO MORE ABOUT THE PROBLEM. WE HOPE THE REST OF THE PROGRAM GOES AS WELL AS THE ARRIVAL.

2. ON THE GIRLS ROWING TEAM QUESTION, DARRYL PROFOUNDLY REGRETS WAKING UP CATHERMAN, ESPECIALLY WHEN HE HAD TO GET UP THE NEXT MORNING AT 4 ANYWAY. THE QUESTION OBVIOUSLY WAS A STUPID ONE, BUT WE SAW NO WAY OF PLACATING THE VARIOUS WORRIED CALLERS WITHOUT A REPORT FROM THE SCENE. MANY THANKS FOR ART'S CALL ON SATURDAY MORNING. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. THE NAM DOCUMENTS YOU SENT HAVE BEEN INVALUABLE AND IO GREATLY APPRECIATES THEM. IO ALSO RECEIVED THE DRAFT STATEMENT FROM SOME OTHER SOURCES, BUT WE ASKED THAT IT BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE ANYWAY IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN OUR CREDIBILITY WITH THE YUGOSLAVS. WE HAVE CLEARED ON THREE CABLES DEALING WITH NAM QUESTIONS, ONE OF WHICH WAS SPECIFICALLY GEARED TO THE YUGOSLAVS. WE HOPE ANDY YOUNG'S TALKS WENT WELL. THE YUGOSLAVS, WE EXPECT, THINK HIGHLY OF HIM AND WILL DO RIGHT BY HIM.

4. MUNITIONS CONTROL SAYS THAT DOD TURNED DOWN THE ANARAN SYSTEM. ROBINSON IS WRITING TO THE AMBASSADOR BUT IS NOT INCLINED TO FIGHT IT. ON OTHER MC CASES, WE HAVE APPARENTLY REVERSED HA'S OBJECTIONS TO THE TEAR GAS AND SECURE VOICE APPLICATIONS, BUT DO NOT YET HAVE A PIECE OF PAPER. HA WANTS TO TALK WITH US ABOUT YUGOSLAV HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS AND HOW WE SHOULD ADDRESS THEM. IF YOU HAVE THOUGHTS ON THIS SUBJECT (ANY THAT ARE PRINTABLE, THAT IS), YOU MIGHT LET US HAVE THEM EITHER IN THIS CHANNEL OR, IF YOU PREFER, IN THE OPEN CHANNEL. CHRISTOPHER

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